

## **9. WAIVERS OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

CPCS has instituted training requirements for certification in most categories of cases in order to assure that each attorney accepting assignments has sufficient training to provide high quality representation. The training requirement is rarely waived.

A request for a waiver will be considered only if the applicant has exceptional experience in the field in which s/he seeks certification. The applicant requesting a waiver must submit a letter to the Director of the appropriate certification panel explaining in detail why the training requirement should be waived. The letter should describe the applicant's litigation experience, familiarity with practice and procedure of Massachusetts courts, and familiarity with the area of substantive law in which the waiver is sought. Specific information should be provided about cases in which the applicant has provided representation as lead counsel, including court, docket number, names of judges and opposing counsel, dates of court appearances, and a description of the issues in each case. Specific cases describing the applicant's utilization of expert witnesses should also be included. Information about specialized training courses the applicant has attended or taught should be provided, including the names, dates and sponsors of the training programs.

Waiver of a training requirement is within the discretion of the Chief Counsel, who may consider any additional information s/he considers relevant.